

I think we're now finished with this. We can discuss the moratorium on drilling some other day, and I now urge passage of this bill.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for H.R. 1875, the End the Trade Deficit Act. I wish to commend my colleague, Congressman DEFAZIO of Oregon for his fine work on this bill.

At a time of nascent national economic recovery, we have the opportunity to right the policy failures of the past. This is particularly important with respect to trade. I have long criticized the NAFTA trade agreement model for its detrimental effect on this country's manufacturing base. Indeed, with the implementation of NAFTA and CAFTA, we have witnessed the off-shoring of millions of good-paying American jobs.

In light of this, H.R. 1875 will direct establishment of a commission to develop a trade policy plan that will eliminate the U.S. merchandise trade deficit and develop a competitive trade policy for the 21st century. I am particularly pleased that this report, which will include recommendations for administrative and legislative actions to reduce this deficit, must be submitted to the Congress and the President prior to the President's submitting any free trade agreement to the House and Senate for approval.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1875 will substitute measured concern in place of rash trade policy. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill and in so doing, help this country achieve sustainable economic recovery.

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1875, the End the Trade Deficit Act of 2009.

Since coming to Congress, I have worked to level the playing field of international trade, stop the illegal trade practices of other countries, notably China, and support American workers. The first step in achieving these goals must be addressing our \$375 billion trade deficit with other countries. While this deficit is down from the \$753 billion deficit we had in 2006, as the global economy recovers, this deficit has increased by billions of dollars each month, and our deficit with China stands at a staggering \$226 billion. In addition, the U.S. has lost 3,178,000 manufacturing jobs since 1998 and the recession has aggravated this damaging trend.

The Trade Deficit Review Commission established by H.R. 1875 will take positive steps to address the trade deficit by developing a new, competitive trade policy that emphasizes fair trade and U.S. jobs. Our trade policy must promote the export of U.S.-made goods to foreign markets and support our workers rather than aiding the multi-national corporations who seek weaker labor, safety, and environmental requirements overseas.

I have consistently opposed free trade agreements—including NAFTA and DR-CAFTA—because I believe they have driven good-paying American jobs out of the country. H.R. 1875 is needed to reverse these damaging trade agreements and takes a positive step forward to revitalize manufacturing in the U.S. and create jobs here at home.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1875, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to establish the Emergency Trade Deficit Commission."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1481) supporting the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week", including raising public awareness of the various tax-preferred retirement vehicles and increasing personal financial literacy.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1481

Whereas people in the United States are living longer, and the cost of retirement is increasing significantly;

Whereas Social Security remains the bedrock of retirement income for the great majority of the people of the United States but was never intended by Congress to be the sole source of retirement income for families;

Whereas recent data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute indicates that, in the United States, less than ⅓ of workers or their spouses are currently saving for retirement and that the actual amount of retirement savings of workers lags far behind the amount that will be needed to adequately fund their retirement years;

Whereas financial literacy is an important factor in United States workers' understanding of the true need to save for retirement;

Whereas saving for one's retirement is a key component to overall financial health and security during retirement years, and the importance of financial literacy in planning one's retirement must be advocated;

Whereas many workers may not be aware of their options for saving for retirement or may not have focused on the importance of, and need for, saving for their own retirement;

Whereas many employees have available to them through their employers access to defined benefit and defined contribution plans to assist them in preparing for retirement, yet many of them may not be taking advantage of such plans at all or to the full extent allowed by such plans as prescribed by Federal law;

Whereas the need to save for retirement is important even during economic downturns or market declines, making continued contributions all the more important;

Whereas all workers, including public- and private-sector employees, employees of tax-exempt organizations, and self-employed individuals, can benefit from increased awareness of the need to develop personal budgets and financial plans including retirement savings strategies and to take advantage of the availability of tax-preferred savings vehicles to assist them in saving for retirement; and

Whereas October 17 through October 23, 2010, has been designated as "National Save for Retirement Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week", including raising public awareness of the various tax-preferred retirement vehicles as important tools for personal savings and retirement financial security;

(2) supports the need to raise public awareness of the availability of a variety of ways to save for retirement which are favored under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and are utilized by many Americans but which should be utilized by more;

(3) supports the need to raise public awareness of the importance of saving adequately for retirement, and the continued existence of tax preferred employer-sponsored retirement savings vehicles; and

(4) calls on the States, localities, schools, universities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of increasing retirement savings for all the people of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise in support of the National Save For Retirement Week resolution that I have sponsored with my friend and colleague, Representative SAM JOHNSON. He and I have championed this proposal, which has passed the House of Representatives in each of the last 3 years.

Saving for one's retirement is of paramount importance. Less than two-thirds of workers are saving for retirement and those who are saving are not saving enough to adequately fund their retirement. As a result, too many Americans rely solely on Social Security to fund their retirements. Social Security is the bedrock of retirement security and retirement income for many Americans. However, on average, Social Security retirees today receive \$14,000 a year, hardly adequate as the sole source of retirement income for most Americans.

This resolution will help raise public awareness of the importance of saving for retirement and encourage greater personal financial responsibility. Congress and employers can encourage saving for retirement through information on long-term saving vehicles and payroll deduction options that currently exist for most American workers.

Since the economic downturn, the personal savings rate has risen to 3 percent, up from 2 years ago when Americans were barely saving at all. We can build on this recent experience to raise awareness about the need to save for emergencies, for future expenses, and for retirement. Small savings throughout one's working lifetime will result in a more secure retirement.

So as we acknowledge the 75th anniversary of Social Security and renew our commitment to Social Security's guaranteed minimum benefits for future seniors, we should also acknowledge and support this resolution and encourage more Americans to save for their retirement.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR,
Washington, DC, July 28, 2010.

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Longworth House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEVIN: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Education and Labor in H. Res. 1481, supporting the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week."

Our committee recognizes the importance of H. Res. 1481 and the need to move expeditiously. Therefore, while we have a valid claim to jurisdiction over portions of the resolution, I do not intend to request a referral. This, of course, is conditional on our mutual understanding that nothing in this resolution or my decision to forego a referral waives, reduces or otherwise affects the jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and Labor, and that a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest will be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of this resolution by the House.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

GEORGE MILLER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, July 28, 2010.

Hon. GEORGE MILLER,
Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor,
House of Representatives, Rayburn House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR GEORGE: Thank you for your recent letter regarding your committee's jurisdictional interest in H. Res. 1481, supporting the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week."

I appreciate your willingness to support expediting floor consideration of this important legislation today. I understand and agree that this is without prejudice to your Committee's jurisdictional interests in this legislation.

I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for working with me on this resolution. This resolution calls attention to the importance of saving

for retirement by designating October 17 through October 23, 2010, as National Save For Retirement Week.

With fewer and fewer employers offering traditional pension plans and with Social Security intended to provide only basic income support, saving for retirement is more important than ever before. The good news, however, is that the tax code offers any number of savings incentives that not only are intended to encourage Americans to save but also make it easier for them to do so.

For young workers, just putting away a little bit from each paycheck through tax-deferred retirement savings accounts such as a 401(k) plan or an IRA can add up to a sizeable nest egg. While young workers may not start off with big paychecks, they at least have the benefit of time and compound interest on their side. Meanwhile, for older workers nearing retirement, the tax code can help by enabling these workers to make catch-up contributions.

With this resolution, it is my hope that we can make more Americans aware not just of the importance of saving for retirement but of the available tax incentives to do so. By taking advantage of these incentives and regularly putting away a little bit, Americans can better secure their retirement.

That's why Ms. SCHWARTZ and I have offered this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHWARTZ. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1481.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1240

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1796) to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to require residential carbon monoxide detectors to meet the applicable ANSI/UL standard by treating that standard as a consumer product safety rule, to encourage States to require the installation of such detectors in homes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1796

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. Exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that could result in death.

(2) Unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and the abnormal operation of fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water heaters, portable generators, and stoves, in residential homes and other dwelling units kills more than 400 people each year and sends more than 20,000 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

(3) Research shows that purchasing and installing carbon monoxide alarms close to the sleeping areas in residential homes and other dwelling units can help avoid fatalities.

(4) Congress should promote the purchase and installation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential homes and dwelling units nationwide in order to promote the health and public safety of citizens throughout the Nation.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) The term "approved carbon monoxide alarm" means a carbon monoxide alarm that complies with the standards published, incorporated, or amended by the Commission with respect to such alarms pursuant to this Act.

(2) The term "carbon monoxide alarm" means a device that detects carbon monoxide and sounds a distinctive audible alert before concentrations of carbon monoxide reach levels that would cause symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

(3) The term "Commission" means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(4) The term "dwelling unit" means a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation, and includes a single family residence as well as each living unit of a multiple family residence (including apartment buildings) and each living unit in a mixed use building.

(5) The term "fire code enforcement officials" means officials of the fire safety code enforcement agency of a State or local government.

(6) The term "NFPA 720" means the Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide Warning Equipment in Dwelling Units issued by the National Fire Protection Association in 2008, and any amended or similar successor standard pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

SEC. 4. ADOPTION OF CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY RULES.

(a) MANDATORY STANDARDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall publish in the Federal Register as mandatory consumer product safety standards the American National Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms (ANSI/UL 2034) and the American National Standard for Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/UL 2075). Such mandatory consumer product safety standards shall take effect 180 days after they are published.

(b) REVISION OF STANDARDS.—Beginning 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, if either standard described in subsection (a) is revised through the applicable consensus standards development process, Underwriters Laboratories shall notify the Commission of the revision and the revision shall be incorporated in the consumer product safety rule unless, within 60 days of such notice, the Commission determines that such revision does not carry out the purposes of this Act and publishes the basis for such a determination in the Federal Register.

(c) RULEMAKING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Commission may, at any time subsequent to publication of the consumer product safety standards required by subsection (a), initiate a rulemaking in accordance